
MINUTES OF THE MILLVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025

The Millville Area School Board held their regular business meeting on Monday, May 19, 2025 in the Millville Jr./Sr. High School Library beginning 7:08 pm. Prior to the meeting, the Millville Area School Board held an Executive Session meeting for personnel matters.

1. ROLL CALL

The following Board members answered roll call: William Berger, Matthew Deihl, Michael Farrell, Greg Hemsarh, Heather Mausteller, Susan Myers, and Jessica Whitmoyer.

Also present were Joseph Rasmus, Superintendent; Whitney Holloway, Business Manager/Board Secretary; Brandon Gordner, Elementary Principal; Matthew Mills, Secondary Principal; Alexa Longacre, Director of Interventional Supports; Dyson Savage, Director of Technology; and Chelsea Rosenberger, Board Recording Secretary.

2. GUEST RECOGNITION AND COMMENTS

Guests Amber DiRado, Wendy Faatz, Klohe Faatz, Shanna Haden, Paul Haden, Emily Bloom, Alex Cavallini, Gwen Utt, Donna Kramer, Rachael Musser, Matthew Martone, Nicole Hall, Megan Hippenstiel, Julia Hippenstiel, Izzy Bodnar, Lindsey Shultz, Heather Cavallini, Christopher Sassaman, Andrew Hemsarh, Katrina Roth all signed the register but none requested to speak.

3. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

3.1 District Updates

- Mr. Rasmus began by discussing the recent resolution approved by the Board related to furloughs. He explained that at the April 28, 2025 board meeting, there was a resolution approved to furlough three professional staff members, one administrative staff member, and three support staff members. Mr. Rasmus shared that the district is looking to potentially furlough from the Secondary Accounting program as there are no students currently enrolled in the program for next year and the classes can be reassigned. Next, he shared that the district would be looking to furlough an Elementary Learning Support position. Finally, the district would be looking at the Elementary Related Arts program for a potential furlough. Mr. Rasmus further explained that all of this was preliminary and would align with the requirements of Act 55. He stated that no decisions were being made lightly and that the district was looking at positions that would make the least amount of impact for students. In conclusion, Mr. Rasmus shared that the positions affected would be announced at the first board meeting in June.
- Next, Mr. Rasmus reviewed some updates related to the security services contract, specifically relating to Hemlock Township. He shared that he and some members of the board attended a meeting to consider extending the contract for School Resource Officer services into the 2025-2026 school year, with the plans being made for the district to implement a School Police Officer in the 2026-2027 school year. He shared that the board is awaiting feedback from the Hemlock Township solicitor for a new contract with the proposed terms.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

4.1 Administrative Reports

- Mr. Mills asked secondary teacher Mrs. Lindsey Shultz to share a presentation with the board along with a few students.
 - Mrs. Shultz shared some information regarding a Youth In Philanthropy grant in the amount of \$2,250, recently received towards a High School Courtyard Revitalization project. She explained that the grant money would be utilized to improve the courtyard space for students and staff.
 - Ms. Izzy Bodnar, student, shared some pictures of the current courtyard, highlighting some areas of concern. She explained that their courtyard committee gained donations from various community members, staff and students towards this project.
 - Ms. Julia Hippenstiel, student, then shared some pictures of a potential mural with the board along with some AI renderings of the future courtyard.
 - Mrs. Mausteller asked if all students would be able to utilize this space.
 - Mr. Mills answered that yes, the plan is to include all students during lunch, classes, etc.
 - Mr. Rasmus asked the presenters if the board could be given a rendering of the proposed mural as it would be need to be considered and approved by the Buildings and Grounds Committee before being painted.
 - The Board thanked them for their presentation.
- Mr. Mills and Mr. Martone shared some gifts created by the Engineering students with the Board.
- Mrs. Longacre took the time to shout out Mrs. Schrader and Mrs. Miller for their work with students at the CSIU 24 Competition, highlighting students Evelyn Gatski and Michael May who placed at the competition. She shared that Mrs. Miller also recently took students to the CSIU for a program. Next, she thanked the board and the recent presenter, Mr. David Flood, for an awesome assembly program. Finally, Mrs. Longacre thanked Mrs. Uranko and Mrs. Kishbach for their work in the career exploration assembly and the Opportunities in Communities day held recently.
- Mr. Gordner then asked to give a shout out to Mrs. Kishbach for her work in the recent career exploration assembly as well as the procurement of a great variety of career day presenters. Additionally, he shared that the Elementary School recently kicked off their One School, One Book initiative, and that students would be reading each chapter together.
- Mrs. Davis shared that she recently attended the Federal Programs Conference where they encouraged the district to continue watching for updates about changes, adding that subsidy information may not be coming out until the middle of June.
- Finally, Mr. Rasmus took a moment to recognize Mrs. Davis for her 35 plus years in the district, thanking her for the countless hours and time in our district.
 - The Board congratulated and thanked Mrs. Davis for her service to Millville Area School District.

5. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**CMAVTS Representative – Mr. Hemsarth**

- Mr. Hemsarth did not have an update from the CMAVTS board meeting.

CSIU Representative – Mrs. Myers

- Mrs. Myers shared that the monthly meeting was later that week and that the CSIU would be holding their annual art show which this year would feature two Millville students' artwork: April Miller and Isabel Barcaro.

6. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**6.1 - April 28, 2025 - Board Meeting Minutes**

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Jessica Whitmoyer that the Millville Area School Board approve the April 28, 2025 Millville Area School District Board meeting minutes.

The motion carried by voice vote. 7 Yea; 0 Nay; 2 Absent

7. BUDGET AND FINANCE**7.1 Expenditures**

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Jessica Whitmoyer that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the expenditures since the April 28, 2025 meeting to present, general fund expenditures in the amount of \$363,879.38, cafeteria expenditures in the amount of \$31,877.91 and athletic expenditures in the amount of \$1,819.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

7.3 Pay May/June Expenditures

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve allowing the Business Manager to pay May and June 2025 expenditures incurred that are due prior to the next scheduled meeting with final approval at the June 9, 2025 meeting.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

7.4 PSBA Insurance (BUCS)

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Michael Farrell that the Millville Area School Board approve the Millville Area School District to participate in the Better Unemployment Compensation System Comprehensive Program (BUCS) for the 2025-2026 school year through the PSBA.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

7.5 - CMAVTS 2025-2026 General Operating Budget

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Greg Hemsarth that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the Columbia-Montour Area Vocational Technical School 2025-2026 General Operating Budget.

- Mrs. Myers asked Mr. Hemsarth for his opinion on the budget as presented.
- Mr. Hemsarth answered that this was the best version of the budget and that the rate of increase for Millville is less than the previous year.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

8. POLICY & GOVERNANCE**8.1 2025 CSIU Ballot for Elections**

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board approve the 2025 slate of candidates for the CSIU Board of Directors.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

9. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**9.1 Bayada Agreement - 2024-2025**

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Michael Farrell that the Millville Area School Board consider and retroactively approve the agreement with Bayada to provide substitute school nursing services, for 2024-2025 school year at a rate of \$55/hour.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

9.2 Weglot/Audio Eye Accessibility Services Subscription

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the quote from Finalsight for accessibility and translation services on the school district website a grand total of \$14,592, for a three year contract (2025-2026, 2026-2027, 2027-2028).

The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 1 No (G. Hemsarth); 2 Absent

9.3 Early Retirement Incentive (ERI) MOU

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Greg Hemsarth that the Millville Area School District table the recommended action as presented:

- A motion to consider and approve a MOU between the Millville Area School District and the Millville Area Teachers' Association which provides an Early Retirement Incentive (ERI) to be offered to professional employees who submit an irrevocable notice of retirement from public education and PSERS at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

The motion to table carried by voice vote. 7 Yea; 0 Nay; 2 Absent

9.4 Citizenship Award

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Michael Farrell that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the dedication of Citizenship Awards to graduating seniors who exhibit characteristics endemic of being a responsible "Quaker." Eligible students will receive a \$50 cash award upon graduation.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

10. CURRICULUM / EDUCATIONAL**10.1 Curricular Excursions & Field Trips**

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Jessica Whitmoyer that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the curricular excursions and trips as presented. District will sponsor field trip costs up to the \$20 per student threshold, as indicated in the Millville Area School District Administrative Regulation 121-AR-1: Field Trips, Curricular Excursions, and Community Based Instruction.

- 10.1 A - Junior High Student Council Trip to Rescue Pets - Mrs. Schrader - May 27, 2025

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

11. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**11.1 High School Courtyard Revitalization Project**

A motion by Michael Farrell and seconded by Jessica Whitmoyer that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve a Courtyard Revitalization Project, to be completed in the high school courtyard utilizing grant money awarded through the Youth In Philanthropy grant as presented.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

Combined Consent (11.2 – 11.4)

A motion by Greg Hemsarh and seconded by Michael Farrell that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the combined recommended action as presented.

- **11.2 Hemlock Acres Property Owners' Association Facility Use 2025**
 - A motion to consider and approve allowing the Hemlock Acres Property Owners' Association to use the High School Cafeteria for their Annual Association Meeting on Saturday, June 7, 2025 from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm. Pending receipt of refundable deposit, per Administrative Regulation AR-707-1.
- **11.3 Alumni Association Banquet Facility Use 2025**
 - A motion to consider and approve use of the Cafeteria to the Alumni Association for the Millville High School Alumni Banquet to be held on June 14, 2025, from 4:30 until 8:00 pm, pending receipt of refundable deposit of \$100, consistent with MASD Administrative Regulation 707 AR-3 District Facilities Schedule.
- **11.4 Disposal Approval - Baseball Scoreboard**
 - A motion to consider and approve disposal of the former baseball scoreboard, as presented.

The combined motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

12. PERSONNEL AND ACTIVITIES**12.1 Board Treasurer - B. Clark**

A motion by William Berger and seconded by Michael Farrell that the Millville Area School Board appoint BRYNN CLARK, as Board Treasurer, for a 1-year term from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, with a stipend of \$100 per month.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

12.2 - Appoint Board Secretary - W. Holloway

A motion by Greg Hemsarh and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board appoint WHITNEY HOLLOWAY, as Board Secretary, for a four-year term from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

12.3 Retirement - D. Davis

A motion by Susan Myers and seconded by Greg Hemsarh that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve accepting with gratitude the notice of retirement from DEE DAVIS as Director of Student Services, effective August 29, 2025.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 1 No (H. Mausteller); 2 Absent

12.4 Maintenance Technician - T. Heffner

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by William Berger that the Millville Area School Board approve the appointment of THOMAS HEFFNER as Maintenance Technician, at the rate of \$19.00 per hour.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

12.5 Teacher Substitute - S. Starr

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Susan Myers that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve SAMANTHA STARR, as a day-to-day teacher substitute for the 2024-2025 school year. Clearances on file.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

12.6 Substitute Nurse - A. Karns

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Michael Farrell that the Millville Area School Board retroactively approve APRIL KARNS, as a nurse substitute, for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

12.7 Health Room Assistant - A. Karns

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Susan Myers that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve appointing APRIL KARNS (LPN) as a Health Room Assistant/Medical Aide at the rate of \$20.00 per hour, starting July 1, 2025.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

12.8 Unpaid Leave - Employee 985

A motion by Greg Hemsarth and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and retroactively approve sixteen (16) unpaid leave days intermittently from December 13, 2024 through May 15, 2025 for employee 985.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

12.9 ESY Staff - Summer 2025

A motion by Susan Myers and seconded by Michael Farrell that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the following Extended School Year (ESY) staff: GWEN UTT, EMILY BLOOM, MAKAYLA HARTZEL, KLOHE FAATZ, MEGAN HIPPENSTIEL, CHELSEA BASSETT, HEIDI IPHER and DANIELLE FRITZ.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

12.10 - 2025 Summer Student Custodians

A motion by Michael Farrell and seconded by Greg Hemsarth that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve TOBIAS SAVIDGE, GUNNER STERNHAGEN, ISAAC IRVIN and EDWARD BLENKINSOP, as Summer Student Custodians, at a rate of \$10.25 per hour beginning June 9, 2025.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

Combined Consent (12.11 – 12.14)

A motion by Susan Myers and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the combined recommended action as presented.

- 12.11 Resignation - M. Christy
 - A motion to accept the notice of resignation from MERRILL CHRISTY as Nurse Substitute, effective June 5, 2025.
- 12.12 Resignation - W. Smith
 - A motion to accept the notice of resignation from WYATT SMITH as Junior High Boys Basketball Head coach, effective immediately.
- 12.13 Additional Transportation Driver Approval
 - A motion to consider and approve the additional Rhinard Transportation Driver, KIMBERLY EVANS for the 2024-2025 school year, pending receipt of all clearances and necessary documentation.
- 12.14 Volunteer Personnel
 - A motion to consider and approve the list of Volunteer Personnel for the 2024-2025 school year as presented. Current clearances and Volunteer Forms on file.
 - April Beitz, Katrina Knapp, Leann Seidel, Kendra Sweeney, and Becky White

The combined motion carried by roll call vote. 7 Yes; 0 No; 2 Absent

CLOSING DISCUSSION

- Mrs. Shanna Haden and Mr. Paul Haden asked to address the Board regarding some potential cost savings measures for the district. Mrs. Haden explained that this idea started with a phone call with the high school principal a month prior. She shared that at that point, there were some scheduling concerns for her daughter and a discussion about taking Millville Virtual Academy classes. However, she was told that the school was only utilizing MVA classes on a full time basis. After that point, she researched the Commonwealth Cyber Charter Academy and learned that like other schools, Millville is losing student to CCA, at a great cost to the district. Mrs. Haden shared figures for per student costs and explained the savings to the district if those students would return to Millville. Additionally, she compared course offerings and graduation requirements for the district against those with CCA.
- Mr. Paul Haden then shared information about the district's fund balance compared with the Benton Area School District. He explained that Benton was holding far less of a balance than Millville Area School District, adding that the district could utilize this towards the deficit instead of furloughing staff.
- Mrs. Haden added that using this money would be a smarter choice for the district to keep staff working in the school as well as utilizing the MVA program more efficiently to keep students in the school.
- The Board thanked them for sharing with the district.
- Mrs. Myers explained that the Board would be rescheduling their second June meeting from June 23, 2025 to June 30, 2025.
- Mr. Mills mentioned that the Baseball Team would be playing in the district semifinals the following day at Central Columbia.

13. ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Greg Hemsarth to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Whitney Holloway, Board Secretary

Chelsea Rosenberger, Board Recording Secretary